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ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR is the art of speaking and writing the English language with propriety.

It is divided into four parts, viz. ORTHOGRAPHY, ETYMOLOGY, SYNTAX, and PROSODY.

ORTHOGRAPHY.

LETTERS.

ORTHOGRAPHY teaches the nature and powers of letters, and the just method of spelling words.

[A letter is the first principle, or least part, of a word.

Letters are divided into vowels and consonants.

A vowel is a simple articulate sound, formed by the impulse of the voice.

A consonant cannot be perfectly sounded by itself; but, joined with a vowel, forms an articulate sound.

The vowels are, *a, e, i, o, u*, and sometimes *w* and *y*.

W and *y* are consonants when they begin a word or syllable; but in every other situation they are called vowels.

A diphthong is the union of two vowels, pronounced by a single impulse of the voice; as, *ea* in beat, *ou* in sound,

A proper diphthong is that in which both the vowels are sounded; as, *oi* in voice, *ou* in ounce.

An improper diphthong has but one of the vowels sounded ; as, *ea* in *eagle*, *oa* in *boat*.]

SYLLABLES.

[A syllable is a sound either simple or compounded, pronounced by a single impulse of the voice, and constituting a word, or part of a word ; as, *man*, *man-ful*.]

WORDS.

Words are articulate sounds, used, by common consent, as signs of our ideas.

All words are either primitive or derivative.

Primitive words cannot be reduced to any simpler words in the language ; as, *man*, *good*, *content*.

Derivative words may be reduced to other words in English of greater simplicity ; as, *man-ful*, *goodness*, *contentment*.

ETYMOLOGY.

Etymology treats of the different sorts of words, their derivation, and their various modifications.

There are in English nine sorts of words, called PARTS OF SPEECH ; namely, the ARTICLE, the SUBSTANTIVE OR NOUN, the PRONOUN, the ADJECTIVE, the VERB, the ADVERB, the PREPOSITION, the CONJUNCTION, and the INTERJECTION.

1. An Article is a word prefixed to substantives to point them out, and to show how far their signification extends ; as, *a* garden, *a* eagle, *the* woman.

2. A Substantive or noun is the name of any thing that exists, or of which we have any notion ; as, *man, virtue, London,*

A substantive may, in general, be distinguished by its taking an article before it, or by its making sense of itself ; as, *a book, the sun, an apple ; temperance, industry, chastity.*

3. A Pronoun is a word used instead of a noun, to avoid the too frequent repetition of the same word ; as, The man is happy ; *he* is benevolent ; *he* is useful.

4. An Adjective is a word added to a substantive, to express its quality ; as, an *industrious* man, a *virtuous* woman.

An Adjective may be known by its making sense with the addition of the word *thing* ; as, a *good* thing, a *bad* thing ; or of any particular substantive ; as, a *sweet* apple, a *pleasant* prospect.

5. A Verb is a word which signifies to BE, to DO, or to SUFFER ; as, “ I *am*, I *rule*, I *am ruled*.”

A verb may be distinguished by its making sense with any of the personal pronouns, or the word *to* before it ; as, I *walk*, he *plays*, they *write* ; or, to *walk*, to *play*, to *write*.

6. An Adverb is a part of speech joined to a verb, an adjective, and sometimes to another adverb, to express some quality or circumstance ; as, he reads *well* ; a *truly* good man ; he writes *very correctly*.

An adverb may be generally known, by its answering to the question, How ? How much ? When ? or Where ? as, in the phrase, “ He reads *correctly*,” the answer to the question, How does he read ? is, *correctly*.

7. Prepositions serve to connect words with one another, and to show the relation between them ; as, “ He went *from* London *to* York ;”

"she is *above* disguise;" "they are supported by industry."

A preposition may be known by its admitting after it a noun or personal pronoun in the objective case; as, with *him*, for *her*, to the *man*.

8. A conjunction is a part of speech used to connect or join together sentences; so as, out of two, to make one sentence. It sometimes connects only words; as, "Thou *and* he are happy, *because* you are good."

9. Interjections are words used to express the passions or emotions of the speaker; as, "O virtue! how amiable art thou!"

ARTICLE.

An Article is a word prefixed to substantives, to point them out, and to show how far their signification extends; as, *a* garden, *an* eagle, *the* woman.

In English there are but two articles, *a* and *the*: *a* becomes *an** before a vowel, and before a silent *h*: as, *an* acorn, *an* hour.

A or *an*, the indefinite article, is used, to point out one single thing of the kind, without fixing precisely what that thing is; as, "Give me *a* book;" that is, any book.

The is called the definite article, because it ascertains what particular thing is meant; as,

* "The article *A* must be used before all words beginning with a consonant, and before the vowel *u* when long: and the article *An* must be used before all words beginning with a vowel, except long *u*; before words beginning with *h* mute; as, *an* hour, *an* air, &c. or before words where the *h* is not mute, if the accent be on the second syllable; as, *an* heroic action, *an* historical account."

“Give me *the* book ;” meaning some book referred to.

[A substantive, without any article to limit it, is taken in its widest sense ; as, “A candid temper is proper for man ;” that is, for all mankind.]

SUBSTANTIVE.

A Substantive or noun is the name of any thing that exists, or of which we have any notion ; as, *man, virtue, London, &c.*

Substantives are either proper or common.

Proper names or substantives are appropriated to individuals ; as, *George, London, Thames.*

Common names or substantives stand for kinds containing many sorts, or for sorts containing many individuals under them ; as, *animal, man, tree, &c.*

To substantives belong gender, number, and case ; and they are all of the third person, when spoken of, and of the second, when spoken to : as, “Blessings attend us on every side !” “Be grateful, children of men !” That is, ye children of men.

GENDER.

Gender is the distinction of sex. There are three genders, the Masculine, the Feminine, and the Neuter.

The masculine gender denotes animals of the male kind ; as, a man, a horse, &c.

The feminine gender signifies animals of the female kind ; as, a woman, a princess, &c.

The neuter gender denotes objects which are neither males nor females ; as, a field, a house, &c.

[Some substantives naturally neuter are, by a figure of speech, converted into the masculine or feminine gender ; as, when we say of the sun, *he* is setting, and of a ship, *she* sails well, &c.

In English, there are four ways of distinguishing the sex, viz.

1. By different words ; as, man, woman ; boy, girl ; son, daughter.

2. By a difference of termination ; as, duke, duchess ; count, countess ; poet, poetess ; actor, actress.

3. By adding an adjective or pronoun to the substantive ; as, a male child, a female child ; a he-goat, a she-goat.

4. By prefixing another substantive to the word ; as, a man-servant, a maid-servant.]

NUMBER.

Number is the consideration of an object, as one or more.

Substantives are of two numbers, the singular and the plural.

The singular number expresses but one thing ; as, a chair, a table.

The plural number signifies more than one ; as, chairs, tables.

[Some nouns, from the nature of the things which they express, are used only in the singular ; as, wheat, pitch, gold, sloth, pride, &c. ; and others only in the plural ; as, bellows, scissors, lungs, riches, &c.

Some words are the same in both numbers ; as, deer, sheep, pair, &c.]

The plural number is generally formed by adding *s* to the singular ; as, dove, doves ; face, faces.

[But when the singular ends in *o*, *x*, *ch*, *sh*, or *ss*, we add *es* in the plural ; as, cargo, cargoes ; box, boxes ; church, churches ; lash, lashes ; kiss, kisses.

Nouns ending in *f*, or *fe*, are rendered plural by changing those terminations into *ves* ; as, loaf, loaves ; wife, wives.

Nouns ending in *y*, after a consonant, form their plural in *ies* ; as, “ lady, ladies. ”

Nouns derived from the Greek, form their plural by changing *on* for *a* ; as, criterion, criteria ; phenomenon, phenomena.

Some, from the Latin, make their plural by changing *us* for *i* ; as, radius, radii ; magus, magi.]

CASES.

Cases are the different terminations, or relations of nouns and pronouns in sentences.

There are three cases : viz. Nominative, Possessive, and Objective.

The nominative case expresses the relation of an agent or actor, or the subject of a verb ; as, “ The boy plays ; ” “ the girls learn.”

The possessive case expresses the relation of property or possession ; and has an apostrophe, with the letter *s* coming after it ; as, “ The scholar’s duty ; ” “ My father’s house : ” that is, “ The duty of the scholar ; ” “ The house of my father.”

When the plural ends in *s*, the other *s* is omitted, but the apostrophe is retained; as, "On eagles' wings;" "the drapers' company."

Sometimes also, when the singular terminates in *s*, the apostrophick *s* is not added; as, "For goodness' sake;" "For righteousness' sake."

The objective expresses the relation of an object acted upon, and generally follows a verb transitive, or preposition; as, "Charles reads his book."

English substantives may be declined in the following manner:

| | SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------|
| <i>Nominative.</i> | A mother. | Mothers. |
| <i>Possessive.</i> | A mother's. | Mothers'. |
| <i>Objective.</i> | A mother. | Mothers. |

| | SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Nominative.</i> | The man. | The men. |
| <i>Possessive.</i> | The man's. | The men's. |
| <i>Objective.</i> | The man, | The men, |

PRONOUNS.

A pronoun is a word used instead of a noun, to avoid the too frequent repetition of the same word; as, "The man is happy," "*he* is benevolent," "*he* is useful."

There are three kinds of pronouns, viz. the Personal, the Relative, and the Adjective pronouns.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS.

There are five Personal Pronouns; viz. *I, thou, he, she, it*; with their plurals, *we, ye or you, they*,

Personal pronouns admit of person, number, gender, and case.

The persons of pronouns are three in each of the numbers, viz.

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| <i>I</i> , is the first person | } | Singular. |
| <i>Thou</i> , is the second person | | |
| <i>He, she or it</i> , is the third person | | |
| <i>We</i> , is the first person | } | Plural. |
| <i>Ye or you</i> , is the second person | | |
| <i>They</i> , is the third person | | |

The numbers of pronouns are two, the singular and the plural ; as, *I, thou, he ; we, ye, they*.

Gender respects only the third person singular of the pronouns, *he, she, it*. *He* is masculine ; *she* is feminine ; *it* is neuter.

Personal pronouns have three cases ; the nominative, the possessive, and the objective.

The personal pronouns are thus declined :

| 1st Person SINGULAR. | | | 1st Person PLURAL. | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Nom.</i> | <i>I</i> . | | <i>We</i> . | | |
| <i>Possess.</i> | <i>My or Mine</i> . | | <i>Our or Ours</i> . | | |
| <i>Object.</i> | <i>Me</i> . | | <i>Us</i> . | | |
| 2d SINGULAR. | | | 2d PLURAL. | | |
| <i>Nom.</i> | <i>Thou</i> . | | <i>Ye or you</i> . | | |
| <i>Possess.</i> | <i>Thy or thine</i> . | | <i>Your or Yours</i> . | | |
| <i>Object.</i> | <i>Thee</i> . | | <i>You</i> . | | |
| 3d SINGULAR. | | | 3d PLURAL. | | |
| | <i>Masc.</i> | | <i>Masc.</i> | | |
| <i>Nom.</i> | <i>He</i> . | | <i>They</i> . | | |
| <i>Possess.</i> | <i>His</i> . | | <i>Their or Theirs</i> . | | |
| <i>Object.</i> | <i>Him</i> . | | <i>Them</i> . | | |

| | 3d SINGULAR. | 3d PLURAL. |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | Fem. | Fem. |
| <i>Nom.</i> | <i>She,</i> | <i>They.</i> |
| <i>Possess.</i> | <i>Her or Hers.</i> | <i>Theirs.</i> |
| <i>Object.</i> | <i>Her,</i> | <i>Them.</i> |

| | 3d SINGULAR. | 3d PLURAL. |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| | Neut. | Neut. |
| <i>Nom.</i> | <i>It.</i> | <i>They.</i> |
| <i>Possess.</i> | <i>Its.</i> | <i>Theirs.</i> |
| <i>Object.</i> | <i>It.</i> | <i>Them.</i> |

RELATIVE PRONOUNS.

Relative Pronouns are such as relate to some word or phrase going before, called the antecedent ; they are *who*, *which*, and *that* ; as, " The man is happy *who* lives virtuously."

What is a compound relative, including both the antecedent and the relative, and is equivalent to *that which* ; as, " This is *what* I wanted ;" that is to say, " *the thing which* I wanted."

Who is applied to persons, *which* to animals and inanimate things ; as, " He is a friend, *who* is faithful in adversity ;" " The bird, *which* sung so sweetly, is *flown*," " This is the tree, *which* produces no fruit."

That is often used as a relative to prevent the too frequent repetition of *who* and *which*. It is applied to both persons and things ; as, " *He that* acts wisely deserves praise ;" " Modesty is a *quality that* highly adorns a woman."

Who is of both numbers, and is thus declined.

SINGULAR AND PLURAL.

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| Nominative. | Who. |
| Possessive. | Whose. |
| Objective. | Whom. |

Who, *which*, and *what*, are called *Interrogatives*, when they are used in asking questions; as, "*Who* is he?" "*Which* is the book?" "*What* art thou doing?"

ADJECTIVE PRONOUNS.

Adjective Pronouns are of a mixed nature, participating the properties both of the pronoun and the adjective. The following are of this class; *each*, *every*, *either*; *this*, *that*, and their plural, *these*, *those*; *some*, *one*, *any*, *all*, and *each*.

[The adjective pronouns may be subdivided into three sorts, namely, the *distributive*, the *demonstrative*, and the *indefinite*.

1. The *distributive* denote the persons or things that make up a number, as taken separately and singly. They are *each*, *every*, *either*; as, "*Each* of his brothers is in a favourable situation;" "*Every* man must account for himself;" "*I* have not seen *either* of them."

2. The *demonstrative* precisely point out the subjects to which they relate: *this* and *that*, *these* and *those* are of this class; as, "*This* is true charity;" "*that* is only its image."

This refers to the nearest person or thing, and *that* to the more distant; as, "*This* man is more intelligent than *that*." *This* indicates the latter, or last mentioned; *that* the former, or first mentioned; as, "*Wealth* and *poverty* are both temptations; *that* tends to excite pride, *this* discontent."

3. The *indefinite* express their subjects in an indefinite or general manner. The following are of this kind: *some, other, any, one, all, such, &c.*]

Other is declined in the following manner.

| | SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Nom. | <i>Other.</i> | <i>Others.</i> |
| Poss. | <i>Other's.</i> | <i>Others'.</i> |
| Obj. | <i>Other.</i> | <i>Others.</i> |

ADJECTIVE.

An **Adjective** is a word added to a substantive, to express its quality; as, "An industrious man;" "A virtuous woman;" "A benevolent mind."

In English, the adjective is not varied on account of gender, number, or case. Thus we say, "A careless boy; careless girls."

The only variation which it admits of, is that of the degrees of comparison.

There are three degrees of comparison; the positive, comparative, and superlative.

The positive degree expresses the quality of an object, without any increase or diminution; as, good, wise, great.

The comparative degree increases or lessens the positive in signification; as, wiser, greater, less wise.

The superlative degree increases or lessens the positive to the highest or lowest degree; as, wisest, greatest, least wise.

The simple word, or positive, becomes comparative by adding *r* or *er*; and it becomes superlative by adding *st* or *est*. And the ad-

verbs *more* and *most*, *less* and *least*, placed before the adjective, have the same effect; as, wise, *more* wise, *most* wise; wise, *less* wise, *least* wise.

[Monosyllables, for the most part, are compared by *er* or *est*; and dissyllables by *more* and *most*; as, mild, milder, mildest; frugal, more frugal, most frugal.

Some words of very common use are irregularly formed; as, good, better, best; bad, worse, worst; little, less, least; much or many, more, most; and a few others.]

VERBS.

A Verb is a word which signifies to BE, to DO, or to SUFFER; as, "I am, I rule, I am ruled."

Verbs are of three kinds; TRANSITIVE, INTRANSITIVE, and PASSIVE. They are also divided into REGULAR, IRREGULAR, and DEFECTIVE.

A Verb transitive expresses an action, and necessarily implies an agent, and an object acted upon; as, to love; "I love Penelope."

A Verb Passive expresses a passion, or a suffering, or the receiving of an action, and necessarily implies an object acted upon, and an agent by which it is acted upon; as, to be loved; "Penelope is loved by me."

A Verb intransitive expresses either action or passion, being, or a state or condition of being, and will not govern an objective case; as, "I am, I sleep, I sit, I walk."

Auxiliary or Helping Verbs, are those by the help of which the English verbs are principally

conjugated; they are, *do, be, have, shall, will, may, can*, with their variations; and *must*, which has no variation.

To verbs belong **NUMBER, PERSON, MODE,** and **TENSE.**

NUMBER AND PERSON.

Verbs have two numbers, the Singular and the Plural; as, "I run, we run," &c.

In each number there are three persons; as,

| | SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| <i>First Person.</i> | I love. | We love. |
| <i>Second Person.</i> | Thou lovest. | Ye love. |
| <i>Third Person.</i> | He loves. | They love. |

MODE.

Mode is a particular form of the verb, shewing the manner in which the being, action, or passion, is represented.

There are five modes of verbs, the **INDICATIVE**, the **IMPERATIVE**, the **POTENTIAL**, the **SUBJUNCTIVE**, and the **INFINITIVE**.

The Indicative Mode simply indicates or declares a thing; as, "I see; they know:" or it asks a question; as, "Seest thou? Do they know?"

The Imperative Mode is used for commanding; as, "Depart thou; mind ye; let us stay; go in peace."

The Potential Mode implies possibility or liberty, power, will, or obligation, and is known by one of these words, *may, can, might, would, could, should, must*; as, "It may rain; he may

go or stay ; I can ride ; he would walk ; they should learn."

The Subjunctive Mode represents a thing under a condition, motive, wish, or supposition, &c. ; and is preceded by a conjunction, expressed or understood, and attended by another verb ; as, "I will respect him, *though* he chide me ;" "Were he good, he would be happy : " that is, "*if* he were good."

The Infinitive Mode expresses a thing in a general and unlimited manner, without any distinction of number or person, and is generally known by the sign *to* before it ; as, "to act, to speak, to be feared."

The Participle is a certain form of the verb, and derives its name from its participating, not only the properties of a verb, but also those of an adjective and noun ; as, "I am desirous of *knowing* him ;" "She was greatly *admired* ;" "*Having finished* his work, he submitted it," &c.

There are three participles, the Present, ending in *ing*, the Perfect or Passive, in *d*, *t* or *n*, and the Compound Perfect ; as, "loving, loved, having loved."

THE TENSES.

Tense is the distinction of time, and seems to admit only of the present, past, and future ; but to mark it more accurately, it is made to consist of six variations, viz. the PRESENT, the IMPERFECT, the PERFECT, the PLUPERFECT, and the FIRST and SECOND FUTURE.

The Present Tense represents an action or event as passing at the time in which it is mentioned; as, I rule; I am ruled; I think; I fear."

The Imperfect Tense represents the action or event, either as past and finished, or as remaining unfinished at a certain time past; as, "I loved her for her modesty and virtue;" "They were travelling post when he met them."

The Perfect Tense not only refers to what is past, but also conveys an allusion to the present time, and is formed by the auxiliary *have*, *has* or *has*, and the perfect participle; as, "I have finished my letter;" "I have seen the person that was recommended to me."

The Pluperfect Tense represents a thing, not only as past, but also as prior to some other point of time specified in the sentence, and is formed by the auxiliary *had* or *hadst*, and the perfect participle; as, "I had finished my letter before he arrived."

The first Future Tense represents the action as yet to come, either with or without respect to the precise time when, and is formed by the sign *shall* or *will*, with the present tense of the verb; as, "The sun will rise to-morrow;" "I shall see them again."

The second Future intimates that the action will be fully accomplished at or before the time of another future action or event, and is formed by placing *shall have* or *will have* before the perfect participle; as, "I shall have dined at

(or before) one o'clock;" "The two houses will have finished their business when (or before) the governor comes to prerogue them."

The conjugation of a verb is naming the present tense, the imperfect, and the perfect participle.

The declension of a verb is the regular combination and arrangement of its several numbers, persons, modes and tenses.

The auxiliary verb *To have*, is conjugated and declined in the following manner.

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERF. PART. |
|----------|------------|-------------|
| Have. | Had, | Had, |

Indicative Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. *Perf.* I have.
2. *Perf.* Thou hast.
3. *Pres.* He, she, or it }
hath or has.

PLURAL.

1. We have.
2. Ye or you have.
3. They have.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I had.
2. Thou hadst.
3. He, &c. had.

PLURAL.

1. We had.
2. Ye or you had.
3. They had.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I have had.
2. Thou hast had.
3. He has had.

PLURAL.

1. We have had.
2. Ye or you have had.
3. They have had.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I had had.
2. Thou hadst had.
3. He had had.

PLURAL.

1. We had had.
2. Ye or you had had.
3. They had had.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall *or* will have.
2. Thou shalt *or* wilt have.
3. He shall *or* will have.

PLURAL.

1. We shall *or* will have.
2. Ye *or* you shall *or* will have.
3. They shall *or* will have.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall have had.*
2. Thou shalt *or* wilt have had.
3. He shall *or* will have had.

PLURAL.

1. We shall have had.
2. Ye *or* you shall *or* will have had.
3. They shall *or* will have had.

Imperative Mode.

SINGULAR.

2. Have thou, *or* do thou have.

PLURAL.

2. Have ye, *or* do ye *or* you have.

Potential Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can have.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst have.
3. He may *or* can have.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can have.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can have.
3. They may *or* can have.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, *or* should have.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, *or* shouldst have.
3. He might, could, would, *or* should have.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, *or* should have.
2. Ye *or* you might, could, would, *or* should have.
3. They might, could, would, *or* should have.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can have had.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst have had.
3. He may *or* can have had.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can have had.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can have had.
3. They may *or* can have had.

* *Will* is not used in the first person in the second future tense.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, or should have had.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, or shouldst have had.
3. He might, could, would, or should have had.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, or should have had.
2. Ye or you might, could, would, or should have had.
3. They might, could, would, or should have had.

Subjunctive Mode.

This mode is formed by prefixing any word of condition or contingency, to the indicative, excepting the present and imperfect tenses of the verb *to be*, and present tense of other verbs.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I have.
2. If thou have.
3. If he have,

PLURAL.

1. If we have.
2. If ye or you have,
3. If they have.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I had.
2. If thou hadst.
3. If he had.

PLURAL.

1. If we had.
2. If ye or you had,
3. If they had.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I have had.
2. If thou hast had.
3. If he have had.

PLURAL.

1. If we have had.
2. If ye or you have had,
3. If they have had.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I had had.
2. If thou hadst had.
3. If he had had.

PLURAL.

1. If we had had.
2. If ye or you had had.
3. If they had had.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall *or* will have.
2. If thou shall *or* will have,
or shalt *or* wilt have.
3. If he shall *or* will have.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall *or* will have.
2. If ye *or* you shall *or* will have.
3. If they shall *or* will have.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall have had.
2. If thou shall *or* will have had *or* shalt, &c.
3. If he shall *or* will have had.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall have had.
2. If ye *or* you shall *or* will have had.
3. If they shall *or* will have had.

Infinitive Mode.

PRESENT. To have.

PERFECT. To have had.

Participles.

PRESENT OR ACTIVE.

Having.

PERFECT OR PASSIVE.

Had.

COMPOUND PERFECT.

Having had.

The verb *To be*, is conjugated and declined as follows.

PRESENT.

IMPERFECT.

PER. PART.

Be *or* am.

Was.

Been.

Indicative Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I am.
2. Thou art.
3. He, she, *or* it, is.

PLURAL.

1. We are.
2. Ye *or* you are.
3. They are.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I was.
2. Thou wast.
3. He was.

PLURAL.

1. We were.
2. Ye *or* you were.
3. They were.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I have been.
2. Thou hast been.
3. He hath *or* has been.

PLURAL.

1. We have been.
2. Ye *or* you have been.
3. They have been.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I had been.
2. Thou hadst been.
3. He had been.

PLURAL.

1. We had been.
2. Ye *or* you had been.
3. They had been.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall *or* will be.
2. Thou shalt *or* wilt be.
3. He shall *or* will be.

PLURAL.

1. We shall *or* will be.
2. Ye *or* you shall *or* will be.
3. They shall *or* will be.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall have been.
2. Thou shalt *or* wilt have been.
3. He shall *or* will have been.

PLURAL.

1. We shall have been.
2. Ye *or* you shall *or* will have been.
3. They shall *or* will have been.

Imperative Mode.

SINGULAR.

2. Be thou, *or* do thou be.

PLURAL.

2. Be ye *or* you, *or* do ye be.

Potential Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can be.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst be.
3. He may *or* can be.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can be.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can be.
3. They may *or* can be.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, *or* should be.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, *or* shouldst be.
3. He might, could, would, *or* should be.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, *or* should be.
2. Ye *or* you might, could, would, *or* should be.
3. They might, could, would, *or* should be.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may or can have been.
2. Thou mightst or couldst have been.
3. He may or can have been.

PLURAL.

1. We may or can have been.
2. Ye or you may or can have been.
3. They may or can have been.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, or should have been.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, or shouldst have been.
3. He might, could, would, or should have been.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, or should have been.
2. Ye or you might, could, would, or should have been.
3. They might, could, would, or should have been.

Subjunctive Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.*

SINGULAR.

1. If I be.
2. If thou be.
3. If he be.

PLURAL.

1. If we be.
2. If ye or you be.
3. If they be.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I were.
2. If thou wert.
3. If he were.

PLURAL.

1. If we were.
2. If ye or you were.
3. If they were.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I have been.
2. If thou hast been.
3. If he has been.

PLURAL.

1. If we have been.
2. If ye or you have been.
3. If they have been.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I had been.
2. If thou hadst been.
3. If he had been.

PLURAL.

1. If we had been.
2. If ye or you had been.
3. If they had been.

* The present tense of the subjunctive, is sometimes used to express future time.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall or will be.
2. If thou shalt or wilt be.
3. If he shall or will be.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall or will be.
2. If ye or you shall or will be.
3. If they shall or will be.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall have been.
2. If thou shalt or wilt have been.
3. If he shall or will have been.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall have been.
2. If ye or you shall or will have been.
3. If they shall or will have been.

Infinitive Mode.

PRESENT TENSE. To be.

PERFECT. To have been.

Participles.

PRESENT. Being.

PERFECT. Been.

COMPOUND PERFECT. Having been.

OF THE CONJUGATION OF REGULAR VERBS.

Verbs are called Regular, when they form their imperfect tense of the indicative mode, and their perfect participle, by adding to the verb, *ed*, or *d* only when the verb ends in *e*; as,

PRESENT.

I love.

I favour.

I heat.

IMPERF.

I loved.

I favoured.

I heated.

PERF. PARTICIP.

Loved.

Favoured.

Heated.

A regular Verb is conjugated and declined in the following manner.

PRESENT.

Love.

IMPERF.

Loved.

PERF. PARTICIP.

Loved.

Indicative Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I love.
2. Thou lovest.
3. He, she, or it, loveth or loves.

PLURAL.

1. We love.
2. Ye or you love.
3. They love.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I loved.
2. Thou lovedst.
3. He loved.

PLURAL.

1. We loved.
2. Ye or you loved.
3. They loved.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I have loved.
2. Thou hast loved.
3. He hath or has loved.

PLURAL.

1. We have loved.
2. Ye or you have loved.
3. They have loved.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I had loved.
2. Thou hadst loved.
3. He had loved.

PLURAL.

1. We had loved.
2. Ye or you had loved.
3. They had loved.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall or will love.
2. Thou shalt or wilt love.
3. He shall or will love.

PLURAL.

1. We shall or will love.
2. Ye or you shall or will love.
3. They shall or will love.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall have loved.
2. Thou shalt or wilt have loved.
3. He shall or will have loved.

PLURAL.

1. We shall have loved.
2. Ye or you shall or will have loved.
3. They shall or will have loved.

Imperative Mode.

SINGULAR.

1. Love thou, or do thou love.

PLURAL.

2. Love ye or you, or do ye love.

Potential Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can love.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst love.
3. He may *or* can love.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can love.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can love.
3. They may *or* can love.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, *or* should love.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, *or* shouldst love.
3. He might, could, would, *or* should love.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, *or* should love.
2. Ye *or* you might, could, would, *or* should love.
3. They might, could, would, *or* should love.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can have loved.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst have loved.
3. He may *or* can have loved.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can have loved.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can have loved.
3. They may *or* can have loved.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, *or* should have loved.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, *or* shouldst have loved.
3. He might, could, would, *or* should have loved.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, *or* should have loved.
2. Ye *or* you might, could, would, *or* should have loved.
3. They might, could, would, *or* should have loved.

Subjunctive Mode,

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I love.
2. If thou love.
3. If he love.

PLURAL.

1. If we love.
2. If ye *or* you love.
3. If they love.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I loved.
2. If thou lovedst.
3. If he loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we loved.
2. If ye or you loved.
3. If they loved.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I have loved.
2. If thou hast loved.
3. If he has loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we have loved.
2. If ye or you have loved.
3. If they have loved.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I had loved.
2. If thou hadst loved.
3. If he had loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we had loved.
2. If ye or you had loved.
3. If they had loved.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall or will love.
2. If thou shalt or wilt love.
3. If he shall or will love.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall or will love.
2. If ye or you shall or will love.
3. If they shall or will love.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall have loved.
2. If thou shalt or wilt have loved.
3. If he shall or will have loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall have loved.
2. If ye or you shall or will have loved.
3. If they shall or will have loved.

Infinitive Mode.

PRESENT. To love.

PERFECT. To have loved.

Participles.

PRESENT. Loving.

PERFECT. Loved.

COMPOUND PERFECT. Having loved.

PASSIVE.

A passive verb is formed by adding the perfect participle of any verb, to the auxiliary

verb *to be*, through all its variations of number, person, mode, and tense, in the following manner.

| PRESENT. | IMPERF. | PERFECT PART. |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Be or am loved.</i> | <i>Was loved.</i> | <i>Been loved.</i> |

Indicative Mode, PRESENT TENSE.

| SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. I am loved. | 1. We are loved. |
| 2. Thou art loved. | 2. Ye or you are loved. |
| 3. He is loved. | 3. They are loved. |

IMPERFECT TENSE.

| SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I was loved. | 1. We were loved. |
| 2. Thou wast loved. | 2. Ye or you were loved. |
| 3. He was loved. | 3. They were loved. |

PERFECT TENSE.

| SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. I have been loved. | 1. We have been loved. |
| 2. Thou hast been loved. | 2. Ye or you have been loved. |
| 3. He hath or has been loved. | 3. They have been loved. |

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

| SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. I had been loved. | 1. We had been loved. |
| 2. Thou hadst been loved. | 2. Ye or you had been loved. |
| 3. He had been loved. | 3. They had been loved. |

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

| SINGULAR. | PLURAL. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. I shall or will be loved. | 1. We shall or will be loved. |
| 2. Thou shalt or wilt be loved. | 2. Ye or you shall or will be loved. |
| 3. He shall or will be loved. | 3. They shall or will be loved. |

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I shall have been loved.
2. Thou shalt *or* wilt have been loved.
3. He shall *or* will have been loved.

PLURAL.

1. We shall have been loved.
2. Ye *or* you shall *or* will have been loved.
3. They shall *or* will have been loved.

Imperative Mode.

SINGULAR.

2. Be thou loved, *or* do thou be loved.

PLURAL.

2. Be ye *or* you loved, *or* do ye be loved.

Potential Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can be loved.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst be loved.
3. He may *or* can be loved.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can be loved.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can be loved.
3. They may *or* can be loved.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, *or* should be loved.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, *or* shouldst be loved.
3. He might, could, would, *or* should be loved.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, *or* should be loved.
2. Ye *or* you might, could, would, *or* should, be loved.
3. They might, could, would, *or* should be loved.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I may *or* can have been loved.
2. Thou mayst *or* canst have been loved.
3. He may *or* can have been loved.

PLURAL.

1. We may *or* can have been loved.
2. Ye *or* you may *or* can have been loved.
3. They may *or* can have been loved.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. I might, could, would, or should have been loved.
2. Thou mightst, couldst, wouldst, or shouldst have been loved.
3. He might, could, would, or should have been loved.

PLURAL.

1. We might, could, would, or should have been loved.
2. Ye or you might, could, would, or should have been loved.
3. They might, could, would, or should have been loved.

Subjunctive Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I be loved,
2. If thou be loved.
3. If he be loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we be loved.
2. If ye or you be loved.
3. If they be loved.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I were loved.
2. If thou wert loved.
3. If he were loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we were loved.
2. If ye or you were loved.
3. If they were loved.

Or, If I was loved, &c.

PERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I have been loved.
2. If thou hast been loved.
3. If he has been loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we have been loved.
2. If ye or you have been loved.
3. If they have been loved.

PLUPERFECT TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I had been loved.
2. If thou hadst been loved.
3. If he had been loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we had been loved.
2. If ye or you had been loved.
3. If they had been loved.

FIRST FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall or will be loved.
2. If thou shalt or wilt be loved.
3. If he shall or will be loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall or will be loved.
2. If ye or you shall or will be loved.
3. If they shall or will be loved.

SECOND FUTURE TENSE.

SINGULAR.

1. If I shall have been loved.

2. If thou shalt or wilt have been loved.

3. If he shall or will have been loved.

PLURAL.

1. If we shall have been loved.

2. If ye or you shall or will have been loved.

3. If they shall or will have been loved.

Infinitive Mode.

PRESENT TENSE.

To be loved.

PERFECT.

To have been loved.

Participles.

PRESENT. Being loved.

PERFECT OR PASSIVE.

Loved.

COMPOUND PERFECT.

Having been loved.

IRREGULAR VERBS.

Irregular Verbs do not form their imperfect tense, and their perfect participle, by the addition of *ed* to the verb.

The following is a tolerably complete list of them.

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Abide | abode | abode |
| Am | was | been |
| Arise | arose | arisen |
| Awake | awoke, R. | awaked |
| Bear, to bring forth | bare | born |
| Bear, to carry | bore | borne |
| Beat | beat | beat, or beaten |
| Begin | began | begun |
| Bend | bent, R. | bent, R. |
| Bereave | bereft, R. | bereft, R. |
| Beseech | besought | besought |
| Bid | bade, bad, bid | bidden, bid |
| Bind | bound | bound |
| Bite | bit | bitten, bit |

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Bleed | bled | bled |
| Blow | blew | blown |
| Break | brake, broke | broken |
| Breed | bred | bred |
| Bring | brought | brought |
| Build | built, R. | built |
| Burst | burst | burst |
| Buy | bought | bought |
| Cast | cast | cast |
| Catch | caught, R. | caught, R. |
| Chide | chid | chidden, chid |
| Choose | chose | chosen |
| Cleave, to adhere, to stick, | clave, R. | cloven |
| Cleave, to split, | clove or cleft | cleft |
| Cling | clung | clung |
| Clothe | clothed | clad, R. |
| Come | came | come |
| Cost | cost | cost |
| Crow | crew, R. | crowed |
| Creep | crept, R. | crept, R. |
| Cut | cut | cut |
| Dare, to venture | durst | dared |
| Deal | dealt, R. | dealt, R. |
| Dig | dug, R. | dug, R. |
| Do | did | done |
| Draw | drew | drawn |
| Drive | drove | driven |
| Drink | drank | drunk |
| Dwell | dwelt, R. | dwelt, R. |
| Eat | ate, eat | eaten |
| Fall | fell | fallen |
| Feed | fed | fed |
| Feel | felt | felt |
| Fight | fought | fought |
| Find | found | found |
| Flee | fled | fled |
| Fling | flung | flung |
| Fly | flew | flown |
| Forfake | forfook | forfaken |
| Freeze | froze | frozen |
| Get | got | got or gotten |
| Gild | gilt, R. | gilt, R. |
| Gird | girt, R. | girt, R. |

| PRESENT, | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Give | gave | given |
| Go | went | gone |
| Grave | graved | graven |
| Grind | ground | ground |
| Grow | grew | grown |
| Have | had | had |
| Hang | hung | hung or hanged |
| Hear | heard | heard |
| Hew | hewed | hewn, R. |
| Hide | hid | hidden, hid |
| Hit | hit | hit |
| Hold | held | held |
| Hurt | hurt | hurt |
| Keep | kept | kept |
| Knit | knit, R. | knit or knitted |
| Know | knew | known |
| Lade | laded | laden |
| Lay | laid | laid |
| Lead | led | led |
| Leave | left | left |
| Lend | lent | lent |
| Let | let | let |
| Light | light | light |
| Lie, to lie down | lay | lain |
| Load | loaded | laden, R. |
| Lose | lost | lost |
| Make | made | made |
| Meet | met | met |
| Mow | mowed | mown |
| Pay | paid | paid |
| Put | put | put |
| Read | read | read |
| Reed | rent | rent |
| Rid | rid | rid |
| Ride | rode | rid or ridden |
| Ring | rang, rung | rung |
| Rise | rose | risen |
| Rive | rived | ripen |
| Run | ran | run |
| Saw | sawed | sawn, R. |
| Say | said | said |
| See | saw | seen |
| Seek | sought | sought |
| Seeth | seethed | sodden |

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| fold | fold | fold |
| sent | sent | sent |
| set | set | set |
| shook | shook | shaken |
| shaped | shaped | shapen, R. |
| shaved | shaved | shaven |
| sheared | sheared | shorn |
| shed | shed | shed |
| shone, R. | shone, R. | shone, R. |
| showed | showed | shown |
| shod | shod | shod |
| shor | shor | shot |
| shrank, shrank | shrank, shrank | shrunk |
| shred | shred | shred |
| shut | shut | shut |
| sung | sung | sung |
| sank, sunk | sank, sunk | sunk |
| sat | sat | sat or sitten |
| slew | slew | slain |
| slept | slept | slept |
| slid | slid | slidden |
| slang, slung | slang, slung | slung |
| slunk | slunk | slunk |
| slit, R. | slit, R. | slit or slitted |
| smote | smote | smitten |
| sowed | sowed | sown, R. |
| spake, spoke | spake, spoke | spoken |
| sped | sped | sped |
| spent | spent | spent |
| spilt, R. | spilt, R. | spilt, R. |
| spun | spun | spun |
| spat | spat | spitten |
| split | split | split |
| spread | spread | spread |
| sprang, sprung | sprang, sprung | sprung |
| stood | stood | stood |
| stole | stole | stolen |
| stuck | stuck | stuck |
| stung | stung | stung |
| stank, stunk | stank, stunk | stunk |
| strode or strid | strode or strid | stridden |
| struck | struck | struck or stricken |
| strung | strung | strung |
| strove | strove | striven |

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Strow or strew | strowed or strewed | { strown, strowed, strewed |
| Swear | sware, swore | sworn |
| Sweat | sweat | sweat |
| Swell | swelled | swollen, R. |
| Swim, to float | swam, swum | swum |
| Swing | swung | swung |
| Take | took | taken |
| Teach | taught | taught |
| Tear | tope | torn |
| Tell | told | told |
| Think | thought | thought |
| Thrive | throve, R. | thriven |
| Throw, to fling | threw | thrown |
| Thrust | thrust | thrust |
| Tread | trod | trodden |
| Wax | waxed | waxen, R. |
| Wear | wore | worn |
| Weave | wove, R. | woven, R. |
| Weep | wept | wept |
| Win | won | won |
| Wind | wound | wound |
| Work | wrought, R. | wrought or worked |
| Wring | wrung, R. | wrung or wringed |
| Write | wrote | written |

DEFECTIVE VERBS.

Defective Verbs are those which are used only in some of their modes and tenses; as, *can, could; must, &c.*

The principal of them are the following :

| PRESENT. | IMPERFECT. | PERFECT PART. |
|----------|------------|---------------|
| Can | could | _____ |
| May | might | _____ |
| Shall | should | _____ |
| Will | would | _____ |
| Must | must | _____ |
| Ought | ought | _____ |
| _____ | quoth | _____ |

ADVERB.

An Adverb is a part of speech joined to a verb, an adjective, and sometimes to another adverb, to express some quality or circumstance, as, "He reads *well*;" "A *truly* good man;" "He writes *very correctly*."

Some adverbs are compared, viz. "Soon, sooner, soonest; often, oftener, oftenest." And those ending in *ly*, are compared by *more* and *most*; as, "Wisely, more wisely, most wisely."

[Adverbs may be reduced to classes.

Of *Time*; as, Now, today, before, yesterday, heretofore, long since, &c.

Of *Place*; as, Where, there, elsewhere, everywhere, nowhere, whither, hither, thither, above, below, whence, forward, &c.

Of *Number*; as, Once, twice, four times, rarely, seldom, often, &c.

Of *Order*; as, Firstly, secondly, thirdly, lastly, finally, &c.

Of *Quantity*; as, How, how much, enough, somewhat, sufficiently, &c.

Of *Affirming*; as, Verily, truly, undoubtedly, indeed, surely, &c.

Of *Denying*; as, Nay, no, not, no wise, &c.

Of *Quality*; as, Prudently, wisely, constantly, justly, &c.]

PREPOSITION.

Prepositions connect words with one another, and show the relation between them. They are, for the most part, placed before nouns and pronouns; as, "He went *from* London *to* York;" "She is *above* disguise;" "They are supported *by* industry."

[Prepositions are separable or inseparable.

The separable prepositions may be used separately from other words ; as, "above, about, over, under, at, after, with," &c.

Some of these are sometimes conjoined with other words ; as, "overtake, undertake, afterward."

The inseparable prepositions are used only in the composition of words ; such as, *be, fore, mis, &c.* ; "betimes, foretel, misconduct."]

The following is a list of the principal prepositions :

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|------------|
| of | for | into | within | down |
| to | by | at | without | on or upon |
| from | in | with | up | off |
| over | below | before | beyond | against |
| through | beneath | after | about | among |
| above | under | behind | near | between |

CONJUNCTION.

A Conjunction is a part of speech, that connects or joins together sentences ; so as, out of two, to make one sentence. It sometimes connects only words.

[Conjunctions are divided into two sorts, the copulative and disjunctive.

The Conjunction Copulative connects or continues a sentence, by expressing an addition, a supposition, a cause, &c. ; as, "He *and* his brother reside in London ;" "I will go, *if* he will accompany me ;" "You are happy, *because* you are good."

The Conjunction Disjunctive not only connects and continues the sentence, but also expresses opposition of meaning in different degrees ; as, "*Though* he was frequently reprov'd, *yet* he did not reform ;" "They came with her, *but* went away without her."]

The following is a list of the principal conjunctions :

| | | |
|----------|-----------------|--------|
| although | for | so |
| and | if | that |
| as | lest | than |
| because | neither | though |
| both | notwithstanding | unless |
| but | nor | yet |
| either | or | |

INTERJECTIONS.

Interjections are words used to express the passions or emotions of the speaker; as, "Oh! I have alienated my friend; alas! I fear for life; O virtue! how amiable art thou!"

SYNTAX.

Syntax shows the agreement and right disposition of words in a sentence.

A sentence is an assemblage of words, expressed in proper form, and ranged in proper order, and concurring to make a complete sense.

Sentences are of two kinds, SIMPLE and COMPOUND.

A simple sentence has in it but one subject, and one finite verb; as, "Life is short."

A compound sentence contains two or more simple sentences, joined together by one or more connective words; as, "Life is short, and art is long."

A phrase is two or more words rightly put together, in order to make a part of a sentence, and sometimes making a whole sentence.

The principal parts of a simple sentence are, the agent, the attribute, and the object.

The agent is the thing chiefly spoken of ; the attribute is the thing or action affirmed or denied of it ; and the object is the thing affected by such action.

The nominative denotes the agent, and usually goes before the verb or attribute ; and the word or phrase, denoting the object, follows the verb ; as, "A wise man governs his passions." Here, a *wise man* is the agent ; *governs* the attribute, or thing affirmed ; and *his passions*, the object.

Syntax principally consists of two parts, Concord and Government.

Concord is the agreement which one word has with another, in gender, number, case, or person.

Government is that power which one part of speech has over another, in directing its mood, tense, or case.

RULE I.

A verb must agree with its nominative case, in number and person ; as, "I learn ;" "Thou art."

Remarks.*

1st. The infinitive mode, or part of a sentence, may stand as the nominative case to a verb ; as, "To see the sun is pleasant."

* The remarks and rules are regularly numbered to make them correspond to the examples in the volume of Exercises, by Lindley Murray. Sold by the publishers, No. 2, Cornhill.

2d. Every verb, except in the infinitive mode, or the participle, has a nominative case, either expressed or implied; as, "Awake;" that is, "Awake ye."

3d. Every nominative case, except the case absolute, belongs to some verb, either expressed or implied; as, "To whom thus Adam," that is, "spoke."

4th. When a verb comes between two nouns, it may agree with either of them; but some regard must be had to that which is more naturally the subject of it, as also to that which stands next to the verb; as, "His meat was locusts and wild honey." "The wages of sin is death."

5th. When the nominative case has no personal tense of a verb, but is placed before a participle, independently on the rest of the sentence, it is called the case absolute; as, "Shame being lost, all virtue is lost."

The nominative case is commonly placed before the verb; but sometimes it is put after it, if it be a simple tense; and between the auxiliary, and the verb or participle, if a compound tense; as,

1st. When a question is asked, a command given, &c.; as, "Confidest thou in me?" "Read thou."

2d. When a supposition is made without the conjunction *if*; as, "Were it not for this." "Had I been there."

3d. When a verb intransitive is used; as, "On a sudden appeared the king."

4th. When the verb is preceded by the adverbs, here, there, then, thence, &c.; as, "Here am I." "Then cometh the end."

5th. When a sentence depends on *neither* or *nor*, so as to be coupled with another sentence; as, "Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

The phrases, *as follows*, *as appears*, should be confined to the singular number; and, *such as follow*, *such as appear*, to the plural number; as, "The arguments were as follows." "The positions were such as appear."

RULE II.

Two or more nouns or pronouns in the singular number, connected together by one or more copulative conjunctions, must have verbs, nouns, and pronouns, agreeing with them in the plural number; as, "Socrates and Plato

were wise men; they were the most eminent philosophers of Greece."

Remarks.

3d. If the singular nouns and pronouns, which are joined together by a copulative conjunction, be of several persons, in making the plural pronoun agree with them in person, the second person takes place of the third, and the first of both; as, "James, and thou, and I are attached to our country."

RULE III.

The conjunction disjunctive has an effect contrary to that of the conjunction copulative; for as the verb, noun, or pronoun, is referred to the preceding terms taken separately, it must be in the singular number; as, "Ignorance or negligence has caused this mistake;" "John, James, or Joseph, intends to go with me."

Remarks.

1st. When singular pronouns of different persons are disjunctively connected, the verb must agree with that person placed nearest to it; as, "I or thou art to blame;" "I thou or I am in fault."

2d. When a disjunctive occurs between a singular noun, or pronoun, and a plural one, the verb is made to agree with the plural noun and pronoun; as, "Neither poverty nor riches were injurious to him;" "I or they were offended by it." But in this case, when it can be done, the plural noun or pronoun should be placed next to the verb.

RULE IV.

A noun of multitude, or signifying many, may have a verb or pronoun agreeing with it, either of the singular or plural number, as the noun implies unity or plurality of idea; as, "The meeting was large." "The nation is powerful." "The council were divided in their sentiments."

RULE V.

Pronouns must agree with their antecedents and the nouns, for which they stand, in number, gender, and person; as, "The moon appears, and she shines; but the light is not her own."

Remarks.

2d. The pronoun *that*, being frequently applied to persons, is to be used after an adjective in the superlative degree, and after the adjective *same*, in preference to *who* or *which*; as, "Charles XII. king of Sweden, was one of the greatest madmen *that* the world ever saw." "He is the *same* man *that* we saw."

3d. The pronouns *whichever*, *whosoever*, and the like, are elegantly divided by the interposition of the corresponding substantives; thus, "On *which* side *soever*," &c.

8th. When the name of a person is used merely as a name, and does not refer to the person, the pronoun *which* ought to be used, and not *who*; as, "It is no wonder if such a man did not shine at the Court of queen Elizabeth, *which* was but another name for prudence and economy." *Which* is also used to distinguish one person of two or more; as, "Which of the two?"

11th. The interjections, O! Oh! and Ah! require the objective case, of a pronoun in the first person after them; as, "O me! Oh me! Ah me!" But the nominative case in the second person; as, "Oh ye hypocrites!"

RULE VI.

The relative is the nominative case to the verb, when no nominative comes between it and the verb; as, "The instructor *who* taught us; the trees *which* are planted." When a nominative comes between the relative and the verb, the relative is governed by some word in its own member of the sentence; as, "He *who* preserves me, to *whom* I owe my being, *whose* I am, and *whom* I serve, is eternal."

Remark.

1st. When the relative pronoun is of the interrogative kind, the noun or pronoun containing the answer, must be in the same case as that which contains the question; as, "Whose books are these? They are John's." "Who gave them to him? We."

RULE VII.

When the relative is preceded by two nominatives of different persons, the relative and verb may agree in person with either, according to the sense; as, "I am the man who command you;" or, "who commands you."

RULE VIII.

Every adjective belongs to a substantive, expressed or understood; as, "He is a *good*, as well as a *wise* man;" "Few are happy." The adjective pronouns, *this*, *that*, must agree, in number, with their substantives; as, "This book, these books," &c.

Remarks.

1st. The word *means*, and the phrases, *by this means*, *by that means*, are used by the best writers in the singular number; as, "By this means they are happy." "There is no means of escaping."

2d. The distributive pronominal adjectives, *each*, *every*, and *either*, agree with nouns, pronouns, and verbs of the singular number only; as, "Every tree is known by its fruit;" unless the plural noun conveys a collective idea; as, "Every six months;" "Every hundred years."

3d. Adjectives are sometimes improperly applied as adverbs; as, "Excellent well," instead of "Excellently well."

4th. Double comparatives and superlatives should be avoided; as, "A more serene temper," should be, "A more serene temper."

5th. Adjectives, having in themselves a superlative signification, do not admit of comparison; as, "Chief, extreme, perfect, right, universal, supreme."

8th. The adjective is usually placed before its substantive; as, "A generous man;" but it is placed after the substantive,

1st. When something depends upon the adjective, or when it gives a better sound; as, "A man generous to his turnouts."

2d. When the adjective is emphatical; as, "Alexander the great."

3d. When several adjectives belong to one substantive; as, "A man just, wise, and charitable."

4th. When the adjective is preceded by an adverb; as, "A boy regularly studious."

RULE IX.

The article *a* or *an* is prefixed to nouns of the singular number only, individually or collectively; as, "A Christian, an infidel, a score, a thousand." The definite article *the* is prefixed to nouns of the singular and plural number; as, "The garden, the house, the stars."

RULE X.

Substantives govern nouns and pronouns in the possessive case; as, "My father's house;" "Goodness brings its reward;" "That desk is mine."

Remarks.

1st. If several nouns come together in the possessive case, the apostrophe with *s* is added to each; as, "This was my father's, mother's, and uncle's advice." If any words intervene, the possessive sign should also be annexed to each; as, "They are John's as well as Eliza's books."

2d. In poetry the additional *s* is frequently omitted, but the apostrophe retained; as, "The wrath of Pelus' son."

3d. Explanatory circumstances ought not to be used between the possessive case, and the word which follows it; as, "She began to extol the farmer's, as *she called him*, excellent understanding."

4th. When terms signifying a name and an office are used, the name must be possessive; as, "At Smith's the bookseller."

RULE XI.

Transitive verbs govern the objective case ; as, " They support us ;" Virtue rewards them who follow her."

Remarks.

4th. The verb *to be*, or any other intransitive verb, may have the same case after it as that which next precedes it ; as, " I am he ;" " I understood it to be him."

RULE XII.

The infinitive mode is governed by verbs, nouns, adjectives and participles ; as, " Cease to do evil ;" " They have a desire to improve ;" " She is worthy to be loved ;" " Endeavouring to persuade."

Remarks.

The infinitive mode is often made absolute, or used independently on the rest of the sentence ; as, " To confess the truth, I was in fault."

RULE XIII.

In the use of verbs and words, that in point of time relate to each other, the order of time must be observed. Instead of saying, " The Lord hath given, and the Lord hath taken away ;" we should say, " The Lord gave," &c.

RULE XIV.

Participles have the same government and agreement as the verbs have from which they are derived ; as, " She is instructing us ;" " He was admonishing them." When a participle is governed by a preposition preceding it, it may also govern the objective case after it ; as, " I am weary with hearing him."

Remarks.

1st. When the participle has either of the articles before it, it must have the preposition *of* after it; as, "By the observing of which, you may avoid mistakes;" "This was a betraying of the trust;" but in general, the articles and prepositions ought to be omitted.

2d. The same remark which has been made respecting the effect of the article and participle, is applicable to the pronoun and participle, when they are similarly associated; as, "Much depends on their observing of the rule."

3d. The perfect participle and the imperfect tense must not be used indiscriminately; as, "He begun," for "he began;" "He run," for "he ran," &c.

When the present and perfect participle, are used as adjectives, they admit of comparison, and express the quality of substantives; as, "A loving father;" "A more deserving boy;" "A most learned man."

A participle with an adverb may be placed independently on the rest of the sentence; as, "This, generally speaking, is a good rule."

RULE XV.

Adverbs require an appropriate situation in the sentence, viz. for the most part, before adjectives, after verbs, and frequently between the auxiliary and the verb; as, "He made a very sensible discourse; he spake unaffectedly and forcibly, and was attentively heard."

Remarks.

1st. The adverb *never* generally precedes the verb; as, "I never was there."

3d. Adverbs are sometimes used for substantives; as, "A little while and I shall not see you;" i. e. "a short time."

RULE XVI.

Two negatives, in English, destroy one another, or are equivalent to an affirmative; as, "His language, though inelegant, is *not ungrammatical*;" that is, "it is grammatical."

RULE XVII.

Prepositions govern the objective case ; as, "Strength of *mind* is with *them* that are pure is *heart*."

Remarks.

1st. The preposition is often inelegantly separated from the relative which it governs; as, "Whom wilt thou give it to?" instead of, "To whom wilt thou give it?"

5th. The preposition *to* is used before nouns of place, when they follow verbs of motion ; as, "I went to London." *In* is set before countries, cities, and large towns ; as, "He lives in France, in London, or in Birmingham." But before villages, single houses, and cities in distant countries, *at* is used ; as, "He lives at Hackney."

Participles are frequently used as prepositions ; as, "Excepting, respecting, touching, concerning," &c.

RULE XVIII.

Conjunctions connect the same modes and tenses of verbs, and the same cases of nouns and pronouns ; as, "Candour is to be approved and practised ;" "The instructor taught her and me to write."

Conjunctions are sometimes made to connect different modes and tenses of verbs ; as, "He lives temperately, and he has long lived temperately ;" "He may return, but he will not continue."

RULE XIX.

Conjunctions implying doubt or contingency, require the subjunctive mode after them ; as, "If I were to write ;" "Unless he repent."

Conjunctions of a positive and absolute nature require the indicative mode ; as, "He is healthy, because he is temperate."

As, when connected with the pronoun *such*, has the force of a relative pronoun; as, "Let *such* as presume to advise," &c.

RULE XX.

When the qualities of different things are compared, the latter noun or pronoun is not governed by the conjunction *than* or *as*, but is nominative to the verb, or is governed by the verb or preposition, expressed or understood; as, "They loved him more than me; i. e. "more than they loved me." "The sentiment is well expressed by Plato, but much better by Solomon than him;" that is, "than *by* him."

RULE XXI.

To avoid disagreeable repetitions, and to express our ideas in few words, an ellipsis, or omission of words, is frequently admitted; as, "He was a learned, wise, and good man," i. e. a learned man, wise man, &c. When the omission of words would obscure the sentence, or weaken its force, they must be expressed; as, "We are apt to love who love us," the word *them* should be supplied.

RULE XXII.

All the parts of a sentence should correspond to each other, and a regular and dependent construction, throughout, be carefully preserved. The following sentence is inaccurate: "He was more beloved, but not so much admired, as Cinthio." *More* requires *than* after it. It should be, "He was more beloved than Cinthio, but not so much admired."

RULE XXIII.

Nouns implying time and distance are often used without any particular word to govern them; as, "All the days of my appointed time will I wait." "He was absent twenty days." "He rode fifty miles."

RULE XXIV.

Two nouns, or a noun and pronoun, signifying the same thing, are in apposition, or in the same case; as, "Paul the apostle; Alexander the conqueror."

[In the phrases, "To dream a dream, "to live a virtuous life," &c. it appears that the noun expresses the same notion with the verb, and that it is no object of an action.]

PROSODY.

PROSODY consists of two parts; the first teaches the true pronunciation of words, comprising ACCENT, QUANTITY, EMPHASIS, and CADENCE; and the other, the laws of VERSIFICATION.

ACCENT.

Accent is the laying of a peculiar stress of the voice on a certain letter or syllable in a word, that it may be better heard than the rest, or distinguished from them; as, in the word *presume*, the stress of the voice must be on the second syllable, *sûme*, which takes the accent.

QUANTITY.

The quantity of a syllable is that time which is occupied in pronouncing it. It is considered as long or short.

A vowel or syllable is long, when the accent is on the vowel; which occasions the vowel to be

slowly joined, in pronunciation, to the following letter; as, "Fäil, bāle, mōōd, hōūse, fēature."

A syllable is short, when the accent is on the consonant; which occasions the vowel to be quickly joined to the succeeding letter; as, "Ar't, bon'net, hun'ger."

A long syllable requires double the time of a short one in pronouncing it; thus, "Māte" and "Nōte" should be pronounced as slowly again as "Māt" and "Nöt."

EMPHASIS.

By emphasis is meant a stronger and fuller sound of voice, by which we distinguish some word on which we design to lay particular stress, and to show how it affects the rest of the sentence. Sometimes the emphatic word must be distinguished by a particular tone of voice, as well as by a stronger accent.

CADENCE.

Cadence is directly opposite to emphasis; for as emphasis is the raising, cadence is the falling of the voice, and generally takes place at the end of a sentence, unless it close with an emphatical word.

VERSIFICATION.

Verse is the arrangement of a certain number and variety of syllables, according to certain laws.

Rhyme is the correspondence of the last sound of one verse, to the last sound or syllable of another.

PUNCTUATION

Is the art of dividing a written composition into sentences, or parts of sentences, by points or stops, for the purpose of marking the different pauses, which the sense and an accurate pronunciation require.

* The Comma represents the shortest pause ; the Semicolon, a pause double that of the comma ; the Colon, double that of the semicolon ; and the Period, double that of the colon.

COMMA. (;)

The Comma usually separates those parts of a sentence, which, though very closely connected in sense, require a pause between them ; as, " I remember, with gratitude, his love and services ; " " Charles is beloved, esteemed, and respected."

SEMICOLON. (;)

The Semicolon is used for dividing a compound sentence into two or more parts not so closely connected as those which are separated by a comma, nor yet so little dependent on each other, as those which are distinguished by a colon ; as, " Straws swim on the surface ; but pearls lie at the bottom."

COLON. (:)

The Colon is used to divide a sentence into two or more parts, less connected than those which are separated by a semicolon ; but not so independent as separate distinct sentences ; as, " Do not flatter yourselves with the hope of perfect happiness : there is no such thing in the world."

PERIOD. (.)

The Period is the whole sentence, complete in itself, wanting nothing to make a full and perfect sense, and not connected in construction with a subsequent sentence ; as, " Fear God. Honour the king. Have charity towards all men."

An imperfect phrase contains no assertion, or does not amount to a proposition or sentence.

A simple sentence has but one subject, and one finite verb ; that is, a verb in the indicative, imperative, potential, or subjunctive mode.

A compounded sentence has more than one subject, or one finite verb, either expressed or understood; or it consists of two or more simple sentences connected together.

In a sentence, the subject and the verb may be each of them accompanied with several adjuncts, as the object, the end, the circumstances of time, place, manner, and the like; and the subject or verb may be either immediately connected with them, or mediately; that is, by being connected with some thing, which is connected with some other; and so on.

If the several adjuncts affect the subject or the verb in a different manner, they are only so many imperfect phrases; and the sentence is simple.

A simple sentence admits of no point by which it may be divided, or distinguished, into parts.

If the several adjuncts affect the subject or the verb in the same manner, they may be resolved into so many simple sentences: the sentence then becomes compounded, and it must be divided into its parts by points.

If there be several subjects belonging in the same manner to one verb, or several verbs belonging in the same manner to one subject, the subjects and the verbs are still to be accounted equal in number; for every verb must have its subject, and every subject its verb; and every one of the subjects, or verbs, should or may have its point of distinction.

EXAMPLES.

“The passion for praise produces excellent effects in women of sense.” Addison, Spect. No. 73. In this sentence, *passion* is the subject, and *produces*, the verb: each of which is accompanied and connected with its adjuncts. The subject is not passion in general, but a particular passion determined by its adjunct of specification, as we may call it, the pass-

for praise. So likewise the verb is immediately connected with its object, *excellent effects*; and mediately, that is, by the intervention of the word *effects*, with *women*, the subject in which these effects are produced: which again is connected with its adjunct of specification; for it is not meant of women in general, but of women of *sense* only. Lastly, it is to be observed, that the verb is connected with each of these several adjuncts in a different manner; namely, with *effects*, as the object; with *women*, as the subject of them; with *sense*, as the quality or characteristic of those women. The adjuncts therefore are only so many imperfect phrases; the sentence is a simple sentence, and admits of no point, by which it may be distinguished into parts.

“The passion for praise, which is so very vehement in the fair sex, produces excellent effects in women of sense.” Here a new verb is introduced, accompanied with adjuncts of its own; and the subject is repeated by the relative pronoun *which*. It now becomes a compounded sentence, made up of two simple sentences, one of which is inserted in the middle of the other; it must therefore be distinguished into its component parts by a point placed on each side of the additional sentence.

“How many instances have we [in the fair sex] of chastity, fidelity, devotion! How many ladies distinguish themselves by the education of their children, care of their families, and love of their husbands; which are the great qualities and achievements of womankind; as the making of war, the carrying on of traffic, and the administration of justice, are those by which men grow famous, and get themselves a name?”

In the first of these two sentences, the adjuncts *chastity, fidelity, devotion*, are connected with the

verb by the word *instances* in the same manner, and in effect make so many distinct sentences: "How many instances have we of chastity! how many instances have we of fidelity! how many instances have we of devotion!" They must therefore be separated from one another by a point. The same may be said of the adjuncts, 'education of their children, &c.' in the former part of the sentence: as likewise of the several subjects, 'the making of war, &c.' in the latter part; which have in effect each their verb; for each of these 'is an achievement by which men grow famous.'

As sentences themselves are divided into simple and compounded, so the members of sentences may be divided likewise into simple and compounded members: for whole sentences, whether simple or compounded, may become members of other sentences by means of some additional connexion.

Simple members of sentences closely connected together in one compounded member or sentence, are distinguished or separated by a comma; as in the foregoing examples.

So likewise the case absolute; nouns in apposition, when consisting of many terms; the participle with something depending on it; are to be distinguished by the comma: for they may be resolved into simple members.

When an address is made to a person, the noun, answering to the vocative case in Latin, is distinguished by a comma.

EXAMPLES.

'This said, he form'd thee, Adam; thee, O man,
Dust of the ground.'

'Now Morn, her rosy steps in th' eastern clime
Advancing, sow'd the earth with orient pearl.'

EX. 102.

Two nouns, or two adjectives, connected by a single copulative or disjunctive, are not separated by a point: but when there are more than two, or where the conjunction is understood, they must be distinguished by a comma.

Simple members connected by relatives and comparatives, are for the most part distinguished by a comma; but when the members are short in comparative sentences; and when two members are closely connected by a relative, restraining the general notion of the antecedent to a particular sense; the pause becomes almost insensible, and the comma is better omitted.

EXAMPLES.

‘Raptures, transports, and ecstasies, are the rewards which they confer: sighs and tears, prayers and broken hearts, are the offerings which are paid to them.’

‘Gods partial, changeful, passionate, unjust:
Whose attributes were rage, revenge, or lust.’ POPE.

‘What is sweeter than honey? and what is stronger than a lion?’

A circumstance of importance, though no more than an imperfect phrase, may be set off with a comma on each side, to give it greater force and distinction.

EXAMPLE.

‘The principle may be defective or faulty; but the consequences it produces are so good, that, for the benefit of mankind, it ought not to be extinguished.’

A member of a sentence, whether simple or compounded, that requires a greater pause than a comma, yet does not of itself make a complete sentence, but is followed by something closely depending on it, may be distinguished by a semicolon.

EXAMPLE.

‘But as this passion for admiration, when it works according to reason, improves the beautiful part of our species in every thing that is laudable ; so nothing is more destructive to them, when it is governed by vanity and folly.’

Here the whole sentence is divided into two parts by the semicolon : each of which parts is a compounded member, divided into its simple members by a comma.

A member of a sentence, whether simple or compounded, which of itself would make a complete sentence, and so requires a greater pause than a semicolon, yet is followed by an additional part making a more full and perfect sense, may be distinguished by the colon.

EXAMPLE.

‘Were all books reduced to their quintessence, many a bulky author would make his appearance in a penny paper : there would be scarce any such thing in nature as a folio : the works of an age would be contained on a few shelves ; not to mention millions of volumes that would be utterly annihilated.’

Here the whole sentence is divided into four parts by colons ; the first and last of which are compounded members, each divided by a comma ; the second and third are simple members.

When a semicolon has preceded, and a greater pause is still necessary ; a colon may be employed, though the sentence be incomplete.

The colon is also commonly used, when an example or a speech is introduced.

When a sentence is so far perfectly finished, as not to be connected in construction with the following sentence, it is marked with a period.

Besides the points which mark the pauses in discourse, there are others that denote a different modulation of voice, in correspondence to the sense:

These are,

The Interrogative point ?

The Exclamation point !

The Parenthesis ()

as, "Are you sincere?"

"How excellent is a grateful heart!"

"Know then this truth, (enough for man to know,)

"Virtue alone is happiness below."

The following characters are also frequently used in composition,

An Apostrophe, marked thus ' ; as, "tho', judg'd."

A Caret, marked thus ^{am} ^ ; as, "I ^ diligent."

A Hyphen, which is thus marked - ; as, "Lapdog, to-morrow."

The Acute Accent, marked thus ' ; as, "Fan'cy."

The Grave Accent, thus ` ; as, "Favour."

The proper mark to distinguish a long syllable, is this ¯ ; as, "Rōsy:" and a short one, this ˇ ; as, "Fōlly." This last mark is called a Breve.

A Diæresis, thus marked ¨, shews that two vowels form separate syllables ; as, "Creātor."


A Section is marked thus, §.


A Paragraph, thus, ¶.

A Quotation has two inverted commas at the beginning, and two direct ones at the end of a phrase or passage ; as,

"The proper study of mankind is man."

Crotchets or Brackets serve to inclose a particular word or sentence. They are marked thus [].

An Index or Hand  points out a remarkable passage.

A Brace  unites three poetical lines ; or connects a number of words, in prose, with one common term.

An Asterisk or little star * directs the reader to some note in the margin.

An Ellipsis is thus marked — ; as, “ K—g,” for King.

An Obelisk, which is marked thus †, and Parallel thus ||, together with the letters of the alphabet, and figures, are used as references to the margin.

APPENDIX.

RULES AND OBSERVATIONS FOR PROMOTING PERSPICUITY AND ACCURACY IN WRITING.

PERSPICUITY is the fundamental quality of style; a quality so essential in every kind of writing, that for the want of it nothing can atone.

The study of perspicuity and accuracy of expression consists of two parts; and requires attention to *Single Words and Phrases*; and to the *Construction of Sentences*.

PART I.

Of Perspicuity and Accuracy of Expression, with respect to Single Words and Phrases.

THESE qualities of style, considered with regard to words and phrases, require the following properties: *Purity, Propriety, and Precision.*

CHAP. I.

Of Purity.

PURITY of style consists in the use of such words, and such constructions, as belong to the idiom of the language which we speak; in opposition to words and phrases that are taken from other languages, or that are ungrammatical, obsolete, new-coined, or used without proper authority.

All such words and phrases as the following, should be avoided: *Quoth he; I wist not; erewhile; behest; selfsame; delicateſſe; politeſſe; hauteur, &c.*

CHAP. II.

Of Propriety.

PROPRIETY of language is the selection of such words, as the best usage has appropriated to those ideas, which we intend to express by them. To preserve pro-

priety, therefore, in our words and phrases, we must avoid *low expressions*; *supply words that are wanting*; be careful not to use the same word in different senses; avoid the *injudicious use of technical phrases, equivocal or ambiguous words, unintelligible expressions, and all such words and phrases as are not adapted to our meaning.*

1. *Avoid low expressions*; such as, "Topsy turvy, hurly burly, pellmell. left to shift for themselves," &c.

2. *Supply words that are wanting.* "This generous action greatly increased his former services;" it should have been, "greatly increased the merit of his former services."

3. *In the same sentence, be careful not to use the same word too frequently, nor in different senses.* "One may have an air which proceeds from a just sufficiency and knowledge of the matter before him, which may produce some motions of his head and body, which might become the bench better than the bar."

4. *Avoid the injudicious use of technical terms.* To inform those who do not understand sea-phrases, that "We tacked to the larboard, and stood off to sea," would be expressing ourselves very obscurely.

5. *Avoid equivocal or ambiguous words.* "The rising tomb a lofty column bore:" Did the tomb bear the column, or the column the tomb?

6. *Avoid unintelligible or inconsistent words or phrases.* "I have observed," says Steele, "that the superiority among these coffee-house politicians, proceeds from an opinion of gallantry and fashion." This sentence, considered in itself, evidently means nothing.

7. *Avoid all those words and phrases which are not adapted to the ideas we mean to communicate; or which are less significant than others, of those ideas.* "It is but opening the eye, and the scene enters." A scene cannot be said to enter: an actor enters; but a scene appears.

CHAP. III.

Of Precision.

PRECISION is the third requisite of perspicuity with respect to words and phrases: it signifies retrenching superfluities, and pruning the expression, so as to exhibit neither more nor less than an exact copy of the person's idea who uses it.

The great source of a loose style, in opposition to precision, is the injudicious use of the words termed *synonymous*. The following instances show a difference in the meaning of words reputed synonymous, and point out the use of attending, with care and strictness, to the exact import of words.

Custom, habit.—Custom, respects the action; habit, the actor. By custom, we mean the frequent repetition of the same act; by habit, the effect which that repetition produces on the mind or body. By the custom of walking often in the streets, one acquires a habit of idleness.

Pride, vanity.—Pride, makes us esteem ourselves; vanity, makes us desire the esteem of others. It is just to say, that a man is too proud to be vain.

Haughtiness, disdain.—Haughtiness, is founded on the high opinion we entertain of ourselves; disdain, on the low opinion we have of others.

Only, alone.—Only, imports that there is no other of the same kind; alone, imports being accompanied by no other. An only child, is one who has neither brother nor sister; a child alone, is one who is left by itself. There is a difference, therefore, in precise language, between these two phrases: "Virtue only makes us happy;" and "Virtue alone makes us happy."

Wisdom, prudence.—Wisdom, leads us to speak and act what is most proper. Prudence, prevents our speaking or acting improperly.

Entire, complete.—A thing is entire, by wanting none of its parts; complete, by wanting none of the appendages that belong to it. A man may have an entire house to himself, and yet not have one complete apartment.

Surprised, astonished, amazed, confounded.—I am surprised with what is new or unexpected; I am astonished at what is vast or great; I am amazed at what is incomprehensible; I am confounded by what is shocking or terrible.

Tranquillity, peace, calm.—Tranquillity, respects a situation free from trouble; considered in itself; peace, the same situation with respect to any causes that might interrupt it; calm, with regard to a disturbed situation going before or following it. A good man enjoys tranquillity, in himself; peace, with others; and calm, after the storm.

PART II.

Of Perspicuity and Accuracy of Expression with respect to the Construction of Sentences.

SENTENCES, in general, should neither be very long, nor very short.

A long succession of either long or short sentences should be avoided.

The things most essential to an accurate sentence, appear to be the four following : 1. *Clearness*. 2. *Unity*. 3. *Strength*. 4. *A judicious use of the figures of speech*.

CHAP. I.

Of the Clearness of a Sentence.

THE first requisite of a perfect sentence is *Clearness*.

Whatever leaves the mind in any sort of suspense as to the meaning, ought to be avoided. Obscurity arises from two causes; either from a wrong choice of words, or a wrong arrangement of them.

The relations of words, or members of a period, are, with us, ascertained only by the position in which they stand.

Hence, a capital rule in the arrangement of sentences is, that the words or members, most nearly related, should be placed in the sentence as near to each other as possible.

Ex. "The Romans understood liberty, *at least*, as well as we." The words should have been thus arranged : "The Romans understood liberty as well, at least, as we."

It is a rule, too, never to crowd many circumstances together, but rather to intersperse them in different parts of the sentence, joined with the principal words on which they depend. For instance : "What I had the opportunity of mentioning to my friend, some time ago, in conversation, was not a new thought." These two circumstances, "*some time ago*," and "*in conversation*," would have had a better effect disjoined, thus ; "What I had the opportunity, some time ago, of mentioning to my friend, in conversation, was not a new thought."

Words expressing things connected in the thought, ought to be placed as near together as possible, even when their separation would convey no ambiguity.

A circumstance ought never to be placed between two capital members of a period, but either between the parts of the member to which it belongs, or in such a manner as will confine it to its proper member.

When different things have an obvious relation to each other, in respect to the order of nature or time, that order should be regarded, in assigning them their places in the sentence; unless the scope of the passage require it to be varied.

CHAP. II.

Of the Unity of a Sentence.

THE second requisite of a perfect sentence is its *Unity*.

In every composition, there is always some connecting principle among the parts. Some one object must reign and be predominant. But most of all, in a single sentence, is required the strictest unity. To preserve this unity, the following rules must be observed.

1. *During the course of the sentence, the scene should be changed as little as possible.* We should not be hurried by sudden transitions from person to person, nor from subject to subject.

The following sentence varies from this rule: "After we came to anchor, they put me on shore, where I was welcomed by all my friends, who received me with the greatest kindness." The proper unity of the sentence is thus restored: "Having come to an anchor, I was put on shore, where I was welcomed by all my friends, and received with the greatest kindness."

A second rule under the head of unity, is, *Never to crowd into one sentence, things which have so little connexion, that they could bear to be divided into two or three sentences.*

3. *Keep clear of all unnecessary parentheses.*

CHAP. III.

Of the Strength of a Sentence.

THE third requisite of a perfect sentence is, *Strength*.

By this is meant such a disposition and management of the several words and members, as shall bring out the sense to the best advantage, and give every word, and every member, its due weight and force.

The *first* rule for promoting the strength of a sentence, is, *to prune it of all redundant words and members.*

An author expresses himself thus: "They returned back again to the same city from whence they came forth;" instead of, "They returned to the city, whence" they came."

The *second* rule is, *to attend particularly to the use of copulatives, relatives, and all the particles employed for transition and connexion.*

The *third* rule is, *to dispose of the capital word, or words, so that they may make the greatest impression.*

The *fourth* rule is, *that a weaker assertion or proposition should never come after a stronger one; and when our sentence consists of two members, the longer should, generally, be the concluding one.*

The *fifth* rule is, *to avoid concluding our sentences with an adverb, a preposition, or any inconsiderable word.*

The *sixth* rule is, *to attend to the harmony and easy flow of the words and members.*

CHAP. IV.

Of Figures of Speech.

THE fourth requisite of a perfect sentence is, a judicious use of the figures of Speech.

In general, Figures of Speech imply some departure from simplicity of expression, to render the impression more strong and vivid.

The figures of speech are, a Metaphor, Allegory, Comparison, Metonymy, Synecdoche, Personification, Apostrophe, Antithesis, Interrogation, Exclamation, and Amplification, or Climax.

A *Metaphor* is a figure founded entirely on the resemblance which one object bears to another; as, when we say of such a minister, that "He is the *pillar* of the state."

Metaphors, as well as other figures, should, on no occasion, be stuck on profusely; and should always be such as accord with the strain of our sentiment.

The resemblance, which is the foundation of the metaphor, must be clear and perspicuous, not far-fetched nor difficult to discover.

An *Allegory* is the representation of some one thing by another that resembles it, and which is made to stand for it.

"Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt; thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it: thou preparedst room

before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land. The hills were covered with the shadow of it; and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars. She sent out her boughs into the sea, and her branches into the river. Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her? The bear out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it. Return, we beseech thee, O God of Hosts, look down from heaven, and behold and visit this vine!"

The first and principal requisite in the conduct of an allegory, is, *that the figurative and the literal meaning be not mixed inconsistently together.*

A *Comparison* or *Simile*, is, when the resemblance between two objects is *expressed in form*, and generally pursued more fully than the nature of a metaphor admits; as when it is said, "The actions of princes are like those great rivers, the course of which every one beholds, but their springs have been seen by few." "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people."

In comparisons of this nature, the understanding is concerned much more than the fancy; and therefore the rules to be observed, with respect to them, are, that they be clear, and that they be useful; that they tend to render our conception of the principal object more distinct; and that they do not lead our view aside, and bewilder it with any false light.

Comparisons ought not to be founded on likenesses which are too faint and remote.

A *Metonymy* is founded on the several relations of cause and effect, container and contained, sign and thing signified. When we say, "They read Milton," the cause is put instead of the effect; meaning "Milton's works." On the other hand, when it is said, "Grey hairs should be respected," we put the effect for the cause, meaning by "grey hairs," *old age*.

When the whole is put for a part, or a part for the whole; a genus for a species, or a species for a genus; in general, when any thing less, or any thing more, is put for the precise object meant; the figure is then called a *Synecdoche*, or *Comprehension*.

Personification, or *Prosopopæia*, is that figure by which we attribute life and action to inanimate objects. We say, "The ground *thirsts* for rain," or, "The earth *smiles* with plenty." "When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of cob from a people of strange language; the sea saw it, and

fled; Jordan was driven back. The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs."

Apostrophe, is a turning off from the regular course of the subject, to address some person or thing; as, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death! where is thy sting? O grave! where is thy victory?"

The next figure in order, is, *Antithesis*. Comparison is founded on the resemblance; antithesis, on the contrast or opposition of two objects. Contrast has always the effect to make each of the contrasted objects appear in a stronger light.

"Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;
"Strong, without rage; without overflowing, full."

"If you seek to make one rich, study not to increase his stores, but to diminish his desires."

Interrogation. The unfigured, literal use of interrogation, is to ask a question; but when men are strongly moved, whatever they would affirm or deny, with great earnestness, they naturally put in the form of a question, expressing thereby the strongest confidence of the truth of their own sentiment, and appealing to their hearers for the impossibility of the contrary. Thus Balaam expressed himself to Balak; "The Lord is not a man that he should lie, neither the son of man that he should repent. Hath he said it? and shall he not do it? Hath he spoken it? and shall he not make it good?"

Exclamations are the effect of strong emotions of the mind; such as, surprise, admiration, joy, grief, and the like. "Wo is me that I sojourn in Melech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!"

The last figure of speech that we shall mention, is what writers call *Amplification* or *Climax*. It consists in heightening all the circumstances of an object or action which we desire to place in a strong light. We shall give an instance from the charge of a judge to the jury, in the case of a woman accused of murdering her own child: "Gentlemen, if one man had anyhow slain another, if an adversary had killed his opposer, or a woman occasioned the death of her enemy, even these criminals would have been capitally punished by the Cornelian law; but, if this guiltless infant, who could make no enemy, had been murdered by its own nurse, what punishments would not then the mother have demanded? With what cries and exclamations would she have stunned your ears! What shall we say then, when

woman, guilty of homicide, a mother, of the murder of her innocent child, hath comprised all those misdeeds in one single crime ; a crime, in its own nature, detestable ; in a woman, prodigious ; in a mother, incredible ; and perpetrated against one, whose age called for compassion, whose near relation claimed affection, and whose innocence deserved the highest favour ?”

The fundamental rule for writing with accuracy, and into which all others might be resolved, undoubtedly is, *to communicate, in correct language, and in the clearest and most natural order, the ideas which we mean to transfuse into the minds of others.*



DIRECTIONS FOR USING CAPITAL LETTERS.

It is proper to begin with a capital,

1. The first word of every book, chapter, letter, note, or any other piece of writing.

2. The first word after a period ; and, if the two sentences are totally independent, after a note of interrogation or exclamation.

3. The appellations of the Deity ; as, “God, Jehovah, the Almighty, the Supreme Being, the Lord, Providence, Messiah, the Holy Spirit.”

4. Proper names of persons, places, streets, mountains, rivers, ships ; as, “George, York, Strand, Alps, Thames, Seahorse.”

5. Adjectives derived from the proper names of places ; as, “Grecian, Roman, English.”

6. The first word of an example, and of a quotation in a direct form ; as, “Always remember this ancient maxim ; Know thyself.”

7. The first word of every line in poetry :

8. Every substantive and principal word in the titles of books ; as, “Thomson’s Seasons ; Rollin’s Ancient History.”

9. The pronoun *I*, and interjection *O*, are written in capitals ; as, “I write ; Hear, O earth.”

10. Words of particular importance ; as, “the Reformation, the Restoration, the Revolution.”

EXERCISES IN PARSING.

SYNOPSIS.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------|---|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|--|------|
| Com. | Noun | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Prop. | | 2 | Perf. | Sing. | Name | Mas. | Gen. | Nom. | | |
| Perf. | | | | Plur. | | Fem. | | Pos. | | Case |
| Rel. | Pronoun | 3 | | | | Neut. | | Obj. | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-------|------|------|------|--------|------|---|------|-------|------|
| Reg. | Tran. | Verb | Ind. | Mode | Pres. | Time | 1 | Per. | Sin. | Num. |
| Irreg. | Intr. | | Imp. | | Imp. | | | | | |
| | | | Pot. | | Perf. | | 2 | | Plur. | |
| | | | Sub. | | Plup. | | 3 | | | |
| | | | Inf. | | 1 Fut. | | | | | |
| | | | | | 2 Fut. | | | | | |

Adjective { Positive
Comparative } Degree.
Superlative }

A REGULAR VERB CONJUGATED.

Present Time. Love. *Imperfect Time.* Loved. *Present Participle.* Loving.
Perfect Participle. Loved. *Compound Perfect Participle.* Having loved.

LESSON I.

The dog barks. A child cries. The man walks. I am. Thou art. He is. She is. We are. Ye are. You are. They are. A flower blossoms. An apple grows. It rains. We sit. They learn. I hate. Thou lovest. An orange is sweet. An almond was bleached. An hour has passed.

LESSON II.

An ode will be sung. I was there. Thou hast been. They had been. She will be. He shall have been. The full moon shines. Look at me. Mind your study. Love your parents. Obey the instructor. Hear the orders. Give the answer. Sit down. Read the lesson. Close the book.

LESSON III.

You may stay. He should go. Thou canst study. It may have been. She could have had. We should have

been loved. They cannot see. Ye might have understood. If he stands, Unless ye repent. Although they hear. Were she there. Had I been there. If thou hast been. If we have seen,

LESSON IV.

I love study. She desires to learn. Good boys wish to improve. He dares not stir. Let me go. Permit me to read. Thou art able to walk. She wished to have sent it. Ye need not stay. They were sorry to have lost them. You would have been able to have seen.

LESSON V.

Sarah is a virtuous woman; I esteem her very much. Thou improvest daily, and thy example encourages others. We completed our journey yesterday, and were happy. The boys came home to-day, they have deceived me greatly. She has written the letter, and wishes it sent by the stage. He had given up the book, before I went. After they had waited a long time, they departed. His fears will detect him, and he shall not escape. The Committee will have agreed on a report before he will get there. Do thou be watchful. Improve thy time, and learn wisdom.

LESSON VI.

I am sincere, thou art industrious, he is loved. We honour them. You encourage us. They commend her. Thou dost improve. Our hopes did flatter us. They have deceived themselves. Ye had resigned him. Good humour shall prevail. We shall have advanced. Let us improve ourselves. Let him consider that. They may offend him. We might surpass them. We should have considered, Thou mightest have improved. To see the sun is pleasant. To live well is honourable. To have conquered himself was his highest praise.

LESSON VII.

I have seen him once, perhaps twice. Thirdly, and lastly, I shall conclude. This plant is found here, and elsewhere. Only to-day is properly ours. The task is already performed. We are wisely and happily directed. When will they arrive? Some things make for him, others against him. He can acquire no virtue, unless he makes some sacrifices. Let him that standeth take heed lest he fall. He retires to rest soon, that he may rise early.

LESSON VIII.

Calm was the day, and the scene delightful. We may expect a calm after a storm. To prevent passion, is easier

than to calm it. Better is a little with content, than a great deal with anxiety. The gay and dissolute think little of the miseries which are stealing softly after them. A little attention will rectify some errors. Though he is out of danger, he is still afraid. He laboured to still the tumult. Still waters are commonly deepest. Damp air is unwholesome. Guilt often casts a damp over our sprightly hours.

LESSON IX.

The contented mind spreads ease and cheerfulness around it. The school of experience teaches many useful lessons. In the path of life are many thorns, as well as flowers. Thou shouldst do justice to all men, even to enemies.

Vanity and presumption ruin many a promising youth. Food, clothing, and credit, are the rewards of industry. He and William live together in great harmony. No age, nor condition, is exempt from trouble. Wealth, or virtue, or any valuable acquisition is not attainable by idle wishes. The British nation is great and generous. The company is assembled. It is composed of persons possessing very different sentiments. A herd of cattle, peacefully grazing, affords a pleasing sight.

LESSON X.

The man who is faithfully attached to religion, may be relied on with confidence. The vices which we should especially avoid, are those which most easily beset us. They who are born in high stations, are not always happy. Our parents and teachers are the persons whom we ought, in a particular manner, to respect. If our friend is in trouble, we, whom he knows and loves, may console him. Thou art the man who has improved his privileges, and who will reap the reward. I am the person who owns a fault committed, and who disdains to conceal it by falsehood. That sort of pleasure weakens and debases the mind. Even in these times, there are many persons, who, from disinterested motives, are solicitous to promote the happiness of others.

LESSON XI.

The restless, discontented person, is not a good friend, a good neighbour, or a good subject. The young, the healthy, and the prosperous should not presume on their advantages. The scholar's diligence will secure the tutor's approbation. The good parent's greatest joy is, to see his children wise and virtuous. Wisdom and virtue ennoble us. Vice and folly debase us. Whom can we so justly

love, as them who have endeavoured to make us wise and happy? When a person has nothing to do, he is almost always tempted to do wrong. We need not urge Charles to do good; he loves to do it. We dare not leave our studies without permission.

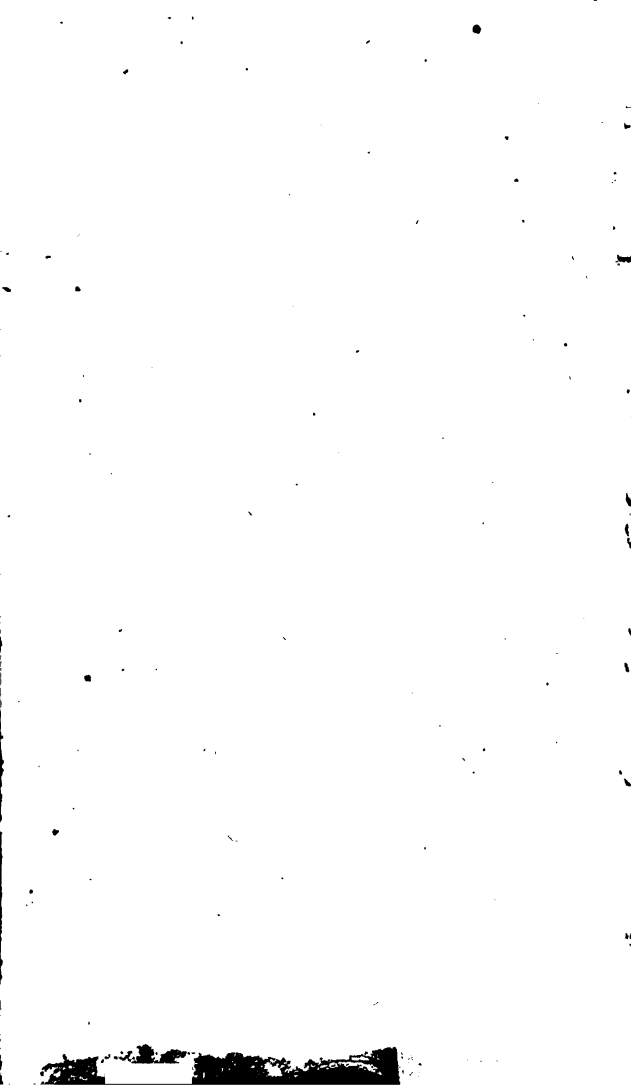
LESSON XII.

The business is, at last, completed; but long ago, I intended to do it. I expected to see the king, before he left Windsor. The misfortune did happen; but we early hoped and endeavoured to prevent it. To have been censured by so judicious a friend, would have greatly discouraged me. Having early disgraced himself, he became mean and dispirited. Knowing him to be my superior, I cheerfully submitted. We should always prepare for the worst, and hope for the best. A young man, so learned and virtuous, promises to be a very useful member of society. When our virtuous friends die, they are not lost forever: they are only gone before us to a happier world. Neither threatnings, nor any promises could make him violate the truth. Charles is not insincere; and therefore we may trust him. From whom was that information received? To whom do that house, and those fine gardens, belong?

LESSON XIII.

He and I commenced our studies at the same time. If we contend about trifles, and violently maintain our opinion, we shall gain but few friends. Though James and myself are rivals, we do not cease to be friends. If Charles acquire knowledge, good manners, and virtue, he will secure esteem. William is respected, because he is upright and obliging. These persons are abundantly more oppressed than we are. Though I am not so good a scholar as he is, I am, perhaps, not less attentive than he, to study. Charles was a man of knowledge, learning, politeness, and religion. In our travels, we saw much to approve, and much to condemn. The book is improved by many useful corrections, alterations, and additions. She is more talkative and lively than her brother, but not so well informed, nor so uniformly cheerful.

E N D.





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